



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Lirio Quintero

Group Art Unit: 1712

Serial No.: 10/023,273

Examiner:

Filed: April 6, 2001

Atty. Docket: B154-26969

For: Surfactant-Polymer Composition
for Substantially Solid-Free Water
Based Drilling, Drill-in and
Completion Fluids

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1/21/03
TC

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before publication of the application in this case, Applicant requests that the attached formal drawings be entered, that claims 1-195 be cancelled, and that the following new claims be added:

1 196. (New) A water-based drilling fluid comprising:
2 an aqueous base;
3 a quantity of water soluble polymer; and,
4 an amount of surfactant in association with said water soluble polymer;
5 wherein said quantity, said amount, and said association provide said water
6 soluble polymer with effective rheology and fluid loss control properties
7 comprising low shear rate viscosity.

1 197. (New) The water-based drilling fluid of claim 196 wherein said low shear
2 rate viscosity comprises about 70,000 cP or more upon exposure to 0.3 rpm.

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